



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

February 23, 1999

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF

SR-6J

Mr. Clifton A. Lake, Esquire
McBride, Baker & Coles
500 West Madison Street
40th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60661-2511

**VIA FACSIMILE AND
REGULAR MAIL**

Dear Mr. Lake:

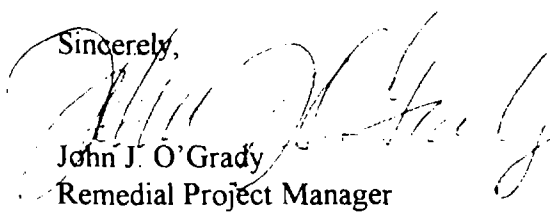
This letter follows up on my previous letter of November 3, 1998, regarding the comments of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) on the revised version 2.0 of both the Site Health and Safety Plan and the Site Investigation Work Plan for the Fansteel facility located in North Chicago, Lake County, Illinois. The revised version 2.0 of both plans were prepared for Fansteel, Inc., by Carlson Environmental, Inc. (CEI), and were dated October 1998.

Of great concern is that CEI's and Great Lakes Analytical's Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs) have not yet been received. The U.S. EPA anticipates that review and comment on those documents by the Superfund Division's Technical Support Section, may require as long as two months from the date of receipt, depending upon how well the QAPPs conform to the U.S. EPA guidance. I have reminded Ms. Margaret Karolyi of CEI via e-mail and facsimile on Monday, February 8, 1999, that I have not yet received either QAPP. As of today, I have not heard back from her. Therefore, I am providing you with three weeks notice, that I expect receipt of both QAPPs by no later than Tuesday, March 16, 1999, unless I hear from you otherwise.

Finally, I find it necessary to mention that to date, the U.S. EPA has been willing to proceed with the enforcement of the June 17, 1997, Special Notice letter to Fansteel, Inc., on an informal basis. However, if the U.S. EPA does not receive better cooperation from this point forward, the Agency may need to reassess our enforcement approach.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (312) 886-1477.

Sincerely,


John J. O'Grady
Remedial Project Manager
Superfund Division

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



229896

cc: R. Nagam, E&E
T. Krueger, U.S. EPA Region 5 Office of Regional Counsel